



## MINUTES

BE IT REMEMBERED that on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020, the Honorable Commissioners Court of Uvalde County, Texas convened in regular session via video conferencing utilizing Zoom. The following members were in attendance:

William R. Mitchell, *County Judge*  
Mariano Pargas Jr., *Commissioner Pct. #2*  
Jerry W. Bates, *Commissioner Pct. #3*  
Ronnie Garza, *Commissioner Pct. #4*  
John Dodson, *County Attorney*  
Valerie Del Toro Romero, *County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of  
the Commissioner's Court*

Also connected to video conferencing utilizing Zoom were: *County Treasurer* Joni Deorsam, *Tax Assessor-Collector* Rita C. Verstuyft, *County Auditor* Alice Chapman, *Road Administrator* Dee Kirkpatrick and *Uvalde Leader News*.

Absent: Randy Scheide, *Commissioner Pct. #1*

**1. Consider and act upon call to order, invocation and pledge of allegiance:**

The Honorable William R. Mitchell called the meeting of April 13, 2020 to order at 10:09 AM followed with the invocation, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and Texas Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Consider and act upon approval of minutes:**

Motion by Commissioner Garza to approve the minutes of March 23, 2020.  
Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.  
Motion carried (3-0).

**3. Consider and act upon extension of local public health emergency disaster declaration:**

On March 17, 2020 the Uvalde County Judge William R. Mitchell issued an Executive Order declaring a Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19 virus. The declaration was good for seven days. On March 23, 2020 the Commissioners Court extended that declaration for a period of 30 days. The Court considered and approved the second extension of the declaration for an additional 30 days to keep the order in place until May 23, 2020.

Motion by Commissioner Pargas.  
Seconded by Commissioner Garza.  
Motion carried (3-0). See Attached Exhibit A.

**4. Consider and act upon ratification of appointment of Public Health Authority:**

County Judge William R. Mitchell Mayor and Don McLaughlin of the City of Uvalde joined together and named Jared Reading, MD to serve in the capacity of Uvalde County Health Authority. On March 27, 2020 a certificate of appointment and oath of office was administered to Jared Reading, MD. The Court considered and ratified the appointment of Jared Reading, MD as Uvalde County Health Authority and approved a stipend in the amount of \$500.00 per month payable to Jared Reading, MD. (Notification after the meeting, Jared Reading, MD respectfully declined the offer of a stipend).

Motion by Commissioner Garza to ratify appointment.

Seconded by Commissioner Bates.

Motion carried (3-0). See Attached Exhibit B.

**5. Consider and act upon award of engineering services agreement for CR 416 bridge:**

County Consultant Carl Esser requested consideration of award of engineering services agreement for the repair of the bridge on County Road 416. Six request for qualifications were received, opened and reviewed by Commissioner Ronnie Garza, Carl Esser and Road Administrator Dee Kirkpatrick on April 7, 2020. The six bids/proposals received were; Dirksen Engineering, Dunaway Engineers, M&S Engineering, SEA/PAPE Dawson Engineers, S&B Infrastructure and TRC Engineers. Carl Esser recommended the award be made to TRC Engineers.

Copies of bids/proposals or request for qualifications may be obtained from the office of the Uvalde County Judge.

Motion by Commissioner Garza to award engineering services agreement to TRC.

Seconded by Commissioner Bates.

Motion carried (3-0).

**6. Consider and act upon acquisition of 0.028 acres for Flores subdivision lift station:**

County Consultant Carl Esser requested authorization to proceed with acquisition of 0.028 acres of land (35 X 35 feet) for the purpose of building a lift station for first time water and first time sewer for the Flores Subdivision located west of north Hood Street in Uvalde County as required by the Colonia Construction Grant. Negotiations with the property owner, Veronica Ruiz, resulted in a selling price in the amount of \$5,000.00 reimbursable from the Colonia Construction Fund Grant at no cost to the County.

Motion by Commissioner Pargas to approve acquisition.

Seconded by Commissioner Bates.

Motion carried (3-0).

**7. Consider and act upon declaring April as fair housing month:**

County Consultant Carl Esser requested approval of a Proclamation declaring April as Fair Housing Month in the County of Uvalde. This is an annual requirement for federal funding grants with the Texas Department of Agriculture to urge all citizens of this locality to become aware of and support the Fair Housing Law.

Motion by Commissioner Pargas to approve resolution.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion carried (3-0).

**8. Consider and act upon Road Administrators report:**

Road Administrator Dee Kirkpatrick informed the Court that work on cutting the edges on County Road 301 has been completed and the department worked on patching holes and cutting brush throughout the county.

No action taken.

**9. Consider and act upon line item budget amendments:**

No amendments were presented to the court for consideration at this time.

No action taken.

**10. Consider and act upon payment of bills:**

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve payment of bills.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion carried (3-0).

**11. Consider and act upon approval of monthly reports:**

Monthly reports on file for review in the office of the Uvalde County Clerk were presented for approval.

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve monthly reports.

Seconded by Commissioner Garza.

Motion carried (3-0).

**12. Consider and act upon payroll approval:**

Motion by Commissioner Bates to approve payroll.

Seconded by Commissioner Pargas.

Motion carried (3-0).

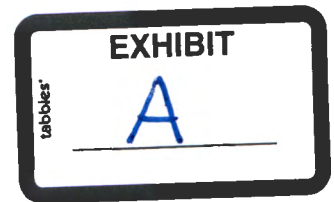
**13. Consider and act upon resolutions and proclamations:**

The Court approved resolutions in honor of the memory of the following individuals:

Olivia Castro †  
Howard L. Collins †  
Epifanio Federico Enriquez †  
Dorothy M. Everett †  
David I. Fowler †  
Carl Lee Hellums †  
Juanita P. Hernandez †  
Ruben Hill †  
Alicia B. Lopez †  
Warren Massey †  
Manuela Munoz †  
Reynaldo Munoz †  
Refugia Uriegas †  
Johnny J. Whiteaker†

With no further business, the meeting of April 13, 2020 was adjourned.

Exhibits identified under a specific agenda item are included as supporting documentation of the action taken by the Uvalde County Commissioners Court and are placed after the minutes and before the last page titled Commissioners Court Order.



**WILLIAM R. MITCHELL**

Uvalde County Judge  
Uvalde County Courthouse  
Uvalde, Texas 78801

**DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY (Extension 2)**

WHEREAS, beginning in December, 2019, a novel coronavirus now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has spread through the world and has now been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath, causing death in some cases; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between those who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes;

WHEREAS, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout Uvalde County, that include the banning of individuals, groups of individuals, or property to undergo additional measures that prevent or control the spread of disease;

WHEREAS, said state of disaster requires that certain emergency protective measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management and Public Health, pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 418;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF UVALDE COUNTY, TEXAS:

1. That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for Uvalde County, Texas, pursuant to section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. That, pursuant to section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than thirty (30) days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court of Uvalde, Texas.
3. That, pursuant to section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
4. That, pursuant to section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Uvalde County emergency management plan.

5. That gathering where 10 people or more are expected to attend are hereby suspended or cancelled.
6. That this executive order takes effect immediately from and after its issuance.

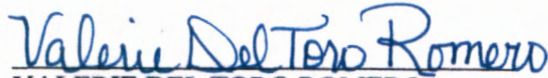
In accordance with Texas Government Code 418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1,000 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

**THE PURPOSE OF THIS ORDER IS FOR EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE MEASURES, MITIGATION PROCEDURES AND RESPONSE PLANS TO THIS PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY.**

IN TESTIMONY, WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and have officially caused the county seal to be affixed at my office in the County of Uvalde, Texas this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020.



HONORABLE WILLIAM R. MITCHELL  
UVALDE COUNTY JUDGE



VALERIE DEL TORO ROMERO  
UVALDE COUNTY CLERK





# OATH OF OFFICE

## For Health Authorities in the State of Texas

I, Jared Reading, do solemnly swear (or affirm), that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of Health Authority of the State of Texas and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State, so help me God.

Jared Reading  
Affiant

163 Gibson Lane Uvalde, Texas 78801  
Mailing Address ZIP

210/995-2052  
(Area Code) Phone Number (day and evening)

J.readingmd@uvaldehealthauthority.org  
Email Address

SWORN TO and subscribed before me this 27th day of March, 2020

William R. Mitchell

Signature of Person Administering Oath

William R. Mitchell

Printed Name

Uvalde County Judge

Title





# Certificate of Appointment

for a

## Health Authority

The Health Authority has been appointed and approved by the:

(Check the appropriate designation below)

- Commissioners Court for Uvalde County
- Governing Body for the Municipality of \_\_\_\_\_
- Director, \_\_\_\_\_ Health Department
- Director, \_\_\_\_\_ Public Health District

I, William R. Mitchell, acting in my capacity as:

(Check the appropriate designation below)

- County Judge or Designee
- Mayor or Designee
- Non-physician and the Local Health Department Director
- Non-physician and the Public Health District Director

do hereby certify the physician, Jared Reading, who is licensed by the Texas Board of Medical Examiners, was duly appointed as the (check as applicable),

- Health Authority
- Health Authority Designee

for the jurisdiction of Uvalde County, Texas.

Date term of office begins March 27, 2020

Date term of office ends March 26, 2022, unless removed by law.

I certify to the above information on this the 27th day of March, 2020.

Handwritten signature of William R. Mitchell in black ink.

Signature of Appointing Official





## THE STATE OF TEXAS

### Statement of Elected/Appointed Officer

(Please type or print legibly)

I Jared Reading do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have not directly or indirectly paid, offered, promised to pay, contributed, or promised to contribute any money or thing of value, or promised any public office or employment for the giving or withholding of a vote at the election at which I was elected or as a reward to secure my appointment or confirmation, whichever the case may be, so help me God.

  
Affiant's Signature

Jared Reading

Printed Name

Uvalde County Health Authority

Position to Which Elected/Appointed

Uvalde, Uvalde County, Texas

City and/or County

SWORN TO and subscribed before me by affiant on this 27th day of March 2020.



Signature of Person Authorized to Administer  
Oaths/Affidavits

William R. Mitchell

Printed Name

Uvalde County Judge

Title



**COMMISSIONERS COURT ORDER**

On this the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020, came to be heard the Uvalde County Commissioners Court Minutes of April 13, 2020, as prepared by the Clerk of the Court.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED the foregoing be recorded and entered for record in the UVALDE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT MINUTES, as required by law. (ORDER 03-12-12)

**APPROVED BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
William R. Mitchell, County Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Scheide, Commissioner Pct. #1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mariano Pargas, Jr., Commissioner Pct. #2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry W. Bates, Commissioner Pct. #3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronnie Garza, Commissioner Pct. #4

(SEAL)

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Valerie Del Toro Romero, County Clerk and  
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Commissioners Court  
of Uvalde County, Texas